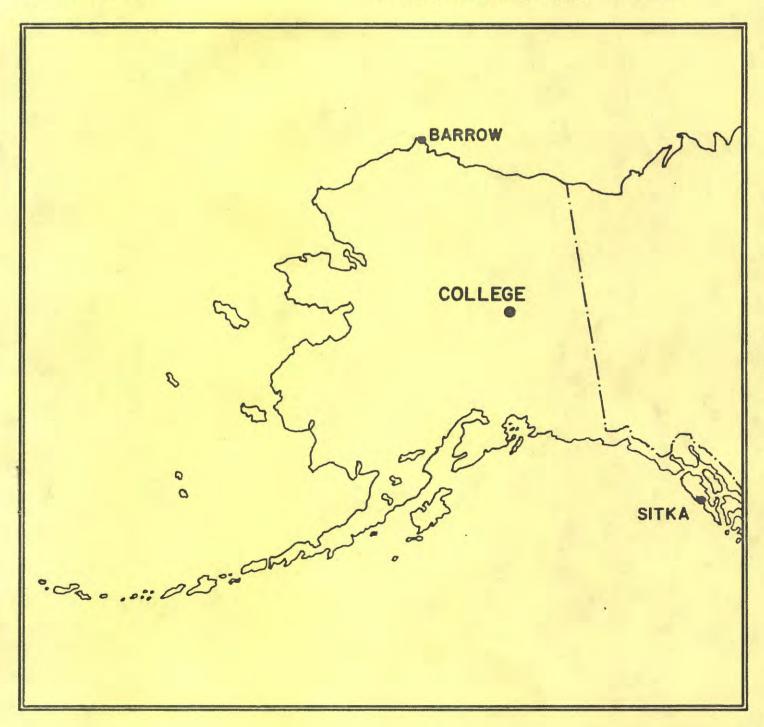
## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

# PRELIMINARY GEOMAGNETIC DATA COLLEGE OBSERVATORY FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

SEPTEMBER 1986

**OPEN FILE REPORT** 86-0300I



THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF JOHN B. TOWNSHEND, CHIEF OF THE COLLEGE OBSERVATORY, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE OBSERVATORY STAFF MEMBERS: H.K. REX AND L.Y. TORRENCE AND IN COOPERATION WITH THE GEOPHYSICAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA. THE COLLEGE OBSERVATORY IS PART OF THE BRANCH OF GLOBAL SEISMOLOGY AND GEOMAGNETISM OF THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

Explanation of Data and Reports

Magnetic Activity Report

Principal Magnetic Storms

Preliminary Calibration Data and Monthly Mean Absolute Values

Magnetogram Hourly Scalings - Five Quietest Days

Sample Format for Normal and Storm Magnetograms

Normal Magnetograms

Storm Magnetograms (When Normal is to disturbed to read)

### COLLEGE OBSERVATORY PRELIMINARY GEOMAGNETIC DATA

### EXPLANATION OF DATA AND REPORTS

### INTRODUCTION

The preliminary geomagnetic data included here is made available to scientific personnel and organizations as part of a cooperative effort and on a data exchange basis because of the early need by some users. To avoid delay, all of the data is copied from original forms processed at the observatory; therefore it should be regarded as preliminary. Inquiries about this report or about the College Observatory should be addressed to:

Chief, College Observatory U.S. Geological Survey 800 Yukon Drive Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Requests for copies of the magnetograms except for the current month should be addressed to:

World Data Center A NOAA D63, 325 Broadway Boulder, Colorado 80303

### GEOMAGNETIC DATA

Normal, Storm and Rapid Run magnetograms and appropriate calibration data are processed daily at the observatory and are available for analysis or copying. Also available, are mean hourly scalings, K-Indices, selected magnetic phenomena reports and on a real-time basis are recordings from a 3-component fluxgate magnetometer and F-component proton magnetometer.

Magnetic Activity
The K-Index: The K-Index is a logarithmic measurement of the range of the most disturbed component (D or H) of the geomagnetic field for eight intervals beginning 0000-0300, 0300-0600...2100-2400 UT. It is a measure of the difference between the highest and lowest deviation from a smooth curve to be expected for a component on a magnetically quiet day, within a three hour interval.

The Equivalent Daily Amplitude, AK: The K-Index is converted into an equivalent range, ak, which is near the center of the limiting gamma ranges for a given K. The average of the eight values is called equivalent daily amplitude AK. The unit 10y has been chosen so as not to give the illusion of an accuracy not justified.

The schedule for converting gamma range to K, and

K to ak is as follows:

Gamma Range	K - Index	<u>ak</u>
C < 25	0	<u>_</u> C
25 < 50	1	3
50 < 100	2	7
100 < 200	3	15
200 < 350	4	27
350 < 600	5	48
600 < 1000	6	80
1000 < 1650	7	140
1650 < 2500	8	240
2500+	9	400 (10 <sub>Y</sub> )

The Magnetic Daily Character Figure, C: To each Universal day a character is assigned on the basis C=O, if it is quiet; C=l, if it is moderately disturbed; C=2, if it is greatly disturbed. The method used to assign characters at the College Observatory is based on AK as follows:

AK Range С ₫ 0≈11

Routine assignment of C was discontinued at College on January 1, 1976.

### OBSERVATORY LOCATION

The College Observatory, operated by the U.S. Geological Survey, is located at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska. It is near the Auroral Zone and the northern limit of the world's greatest earthquake belt, the circum-Pacific Seismic belt. Although the observatory's basic operation is in geomagnetism and seismology, it cooperates with other scientists and organizations in areas where the facility and personnel can be of service.

The observatory is one of three operated by the USGS in Alaska. The others are located at Barrow and Sitka.

The position of the observatory site is: Geographic latitude......64051.6'N Geographic longitude.....1470 50.2'W Geomagnetic latitude.....+64.60 Geomagnetic longitude.....+256.5° Elevation......200 meters

Selected Phenomena & Outstanding Magnetic Effects Prior to January 1, 1976, the Normal and Rapid Run records were reviewed at the observatory for selected magnetic phenomena and the events identified were forwarded to the IUGG Commission on Magnetic Variations and Disturbances. This was discontinued on January 1, 1976, but a report on Outstanding Magnetic Effects is prepared monthly for this report.

### Principal Magnetic Storms

Gradual and sudden commencement magnetic disturbances with at least one K-Index of 5 or greater, which are believed to be part of a world-wide disturbance, are classified as principal magnetic storms. The time of the storm beginning and ending; direction and amplitude of sudden commencements; period of maximum activity; and storm range are reported. Monthly reports of these data are forwarded to the World Data Center A in Boulder, Colorado.

Magnetogram Hourly Scalings

Magnetogram hourly scalings are averages for successive periods of one hour for the D, H and Zelements. The Value in the column headed "Ol" is the average for the hour beginning 0000 and ending 0100. Note that the values on the scaling sheets are in tenths of mm with the decimal point omitted. The user of these scalings should keep in mind that the tabular values are hourly means and if he is interested in the detailed morphology of the magnetic field, he should refer directly to the magnetograms.

Magnetograms

The normal magnetograms in this report are reproduced at about one-third the size of the originals. Preliminary base-line values and scale values adopted for use with the original magnetograms are included. For days when the magnetic field is too disturbed for the Normal magnetogram to be readable, Storm magnetograms are reproduced.

Absolutes, Base-lines and Scale Values

To determine the absolute value of the magnetic field from the hourly means or from point scalings the following equations should be used:

D=B<sub>D</sub>+d·S<sub>D</sub>: H=B<sub>H</sub>+h·S<sub>H</sub>; Z=B<sub>Z</sub>+z·S<sub>Z</sub> where D, H and Z are absolute values;  $B_D$ ,  $B_H$  and  $B_Z$  are base-line values;  $S_D$ ,  $S_H$  and  $S_Z$  are scale values; and d, h and z are scalings in millimeters.

NUAA FORM 76-133
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
(9-72)
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OBSERVATORY

College, Alaska

MONTH AND YEAR

## MAGNETIC ACTIVITY

(Greenwich civil time, counted from midnight to midnight)

September 1986

					K-11	NDICE	S				TIME SO	CALE ON
DATE	00-03	03-06	60-90	09-12	12-15	15-18	18-21	21-24	SUM	AK	MAGNET	
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K SCALE USED:	D	Н	Z	
LOWER LIMIT FOR K = 9	675.7	322.2		(mm)
CURRENT SCALE VALUE	3.71	7.81		(γ/mm)
LOWER LIMIT FOR K = 9	2510	2520		(to nearest 107)

SCALINGS AND COMPUTATIONS HAVE BEEN CHECKED.

APPROVED John B. Townshend, Chief, College Observatory

NOAA FORM 86-500 (11/73)

Data from Individual Observatories:

PRINCIPAL MAGNETIC STORMS

COLLEGE OBSERVATORY, COLLEGE, ALASKA September 1986

WDC-A FOR SOLAR-TERRESTRIAL PHYSICS ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE, NOAA BOULDER, COLORADO 60802 U.S.A.

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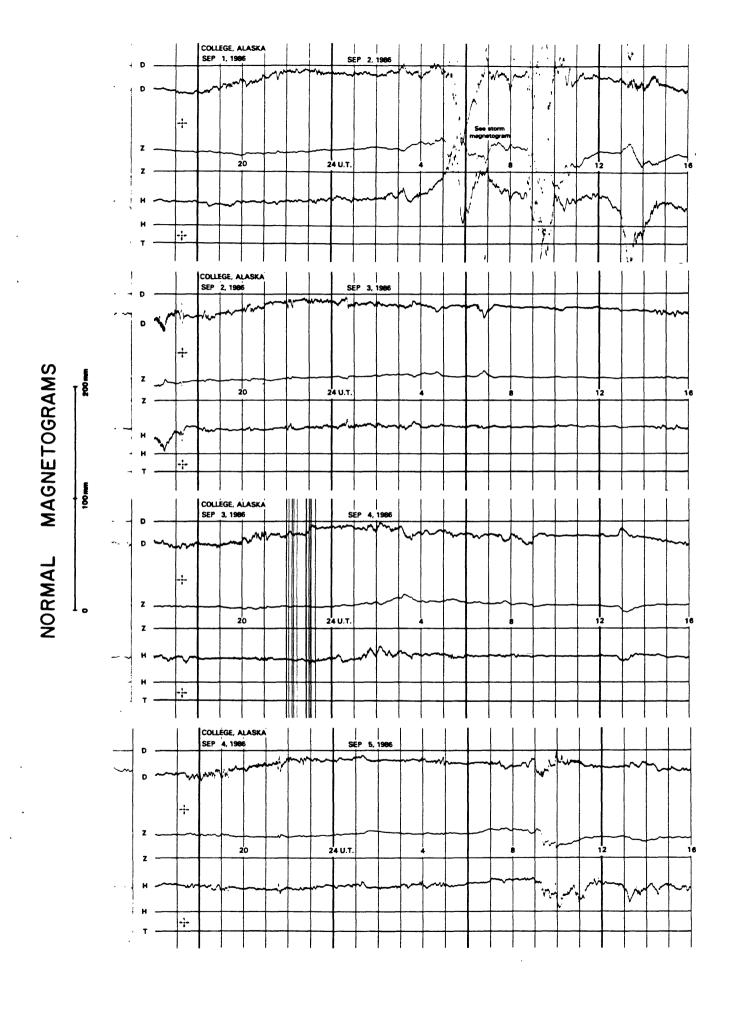
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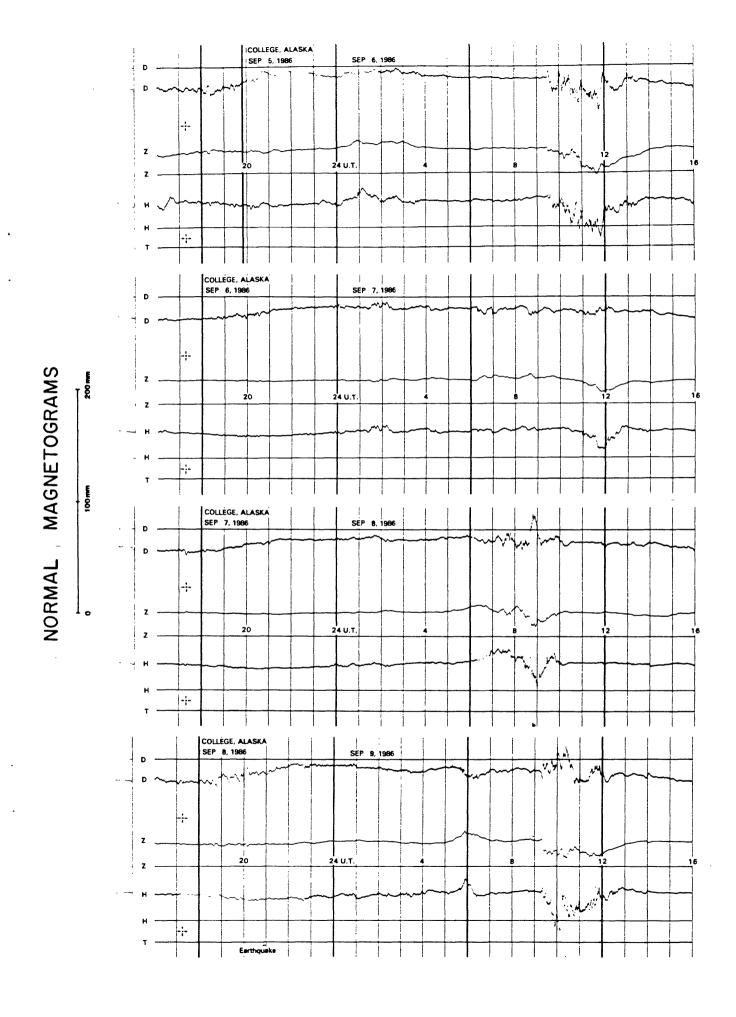
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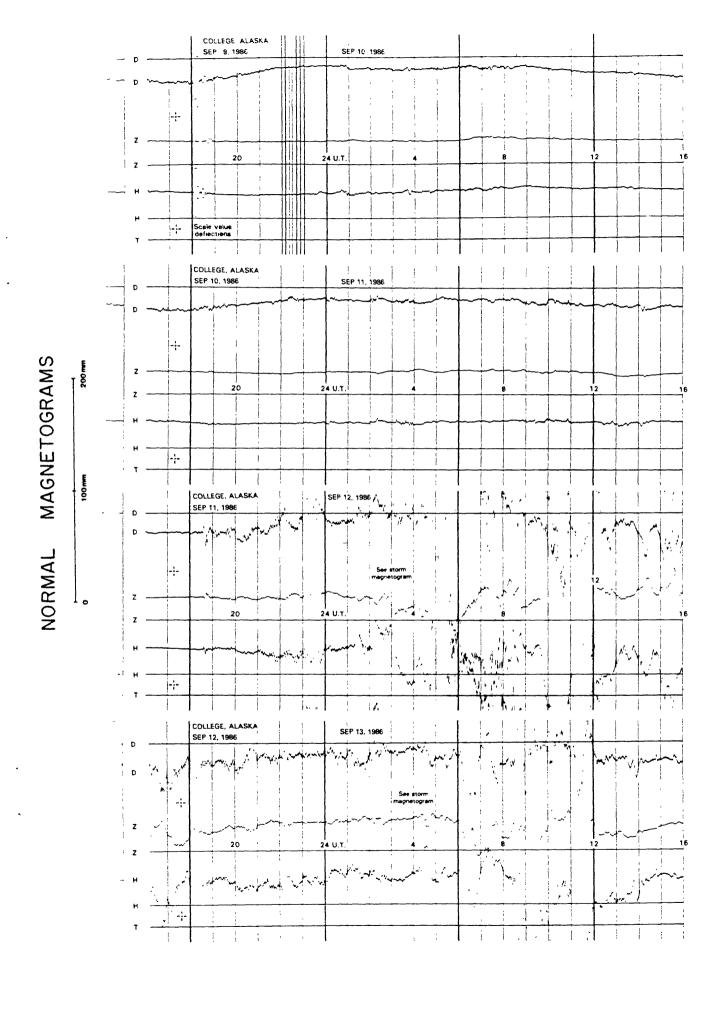
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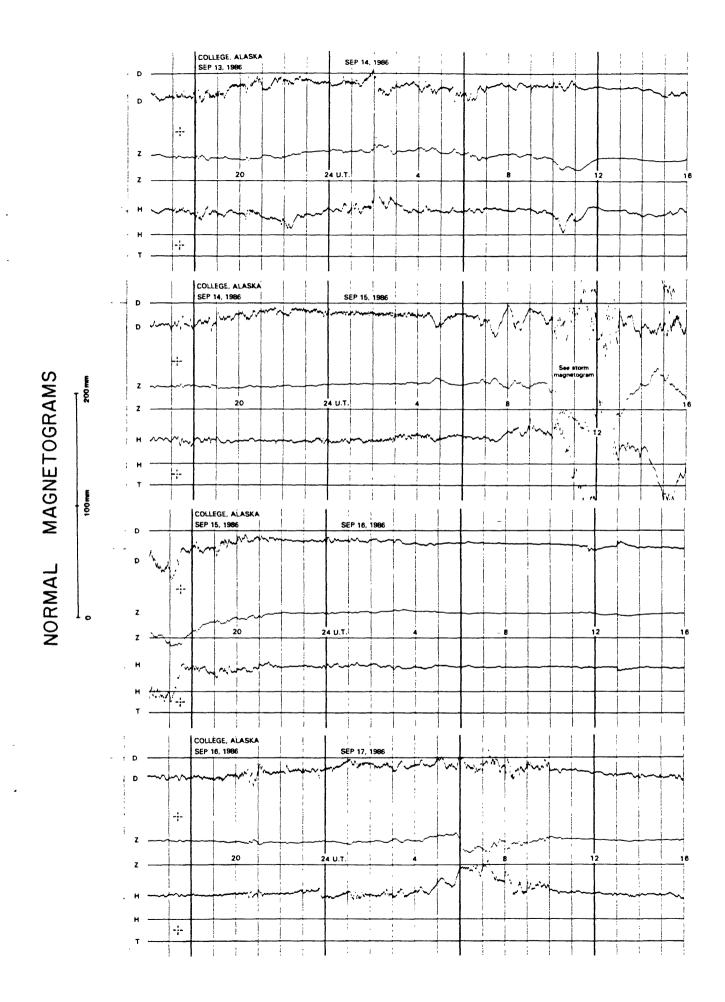
FORMAT FOR NORMAL & STORM MAGNETOGRAMS

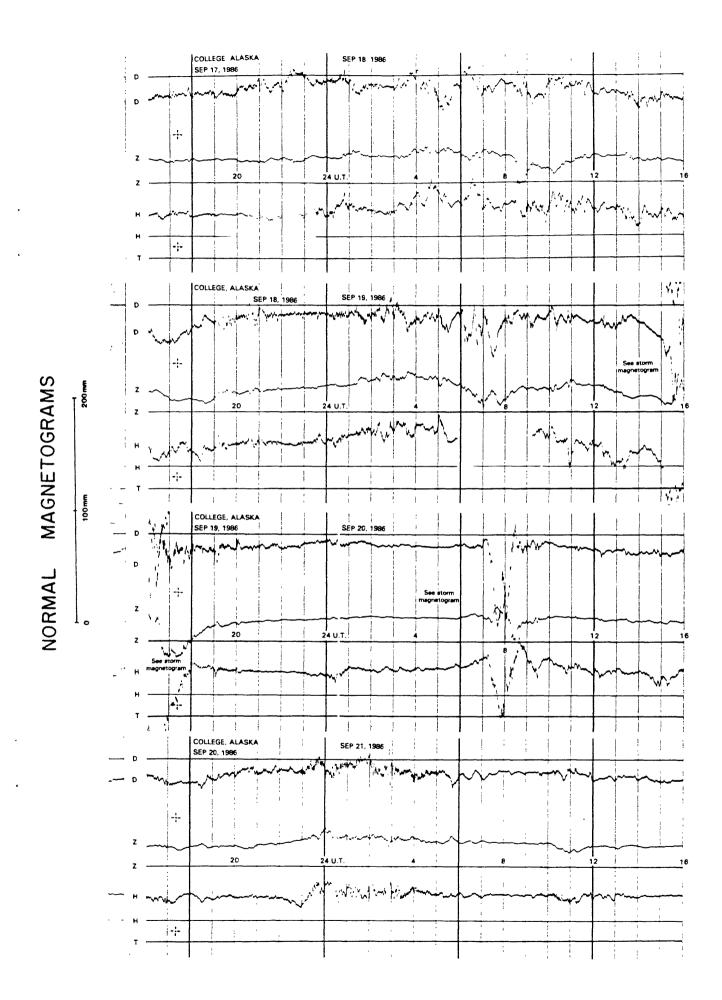
SEE PRELIMINARY CALIBRATION DATA FOR SCALE VALUES & BASELINE VALUES

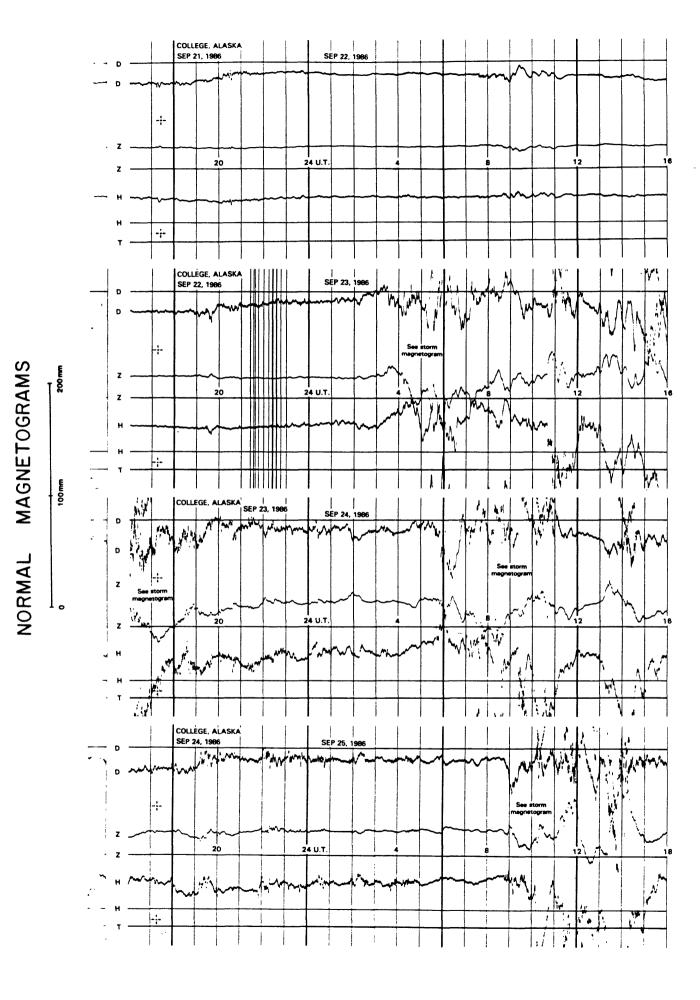


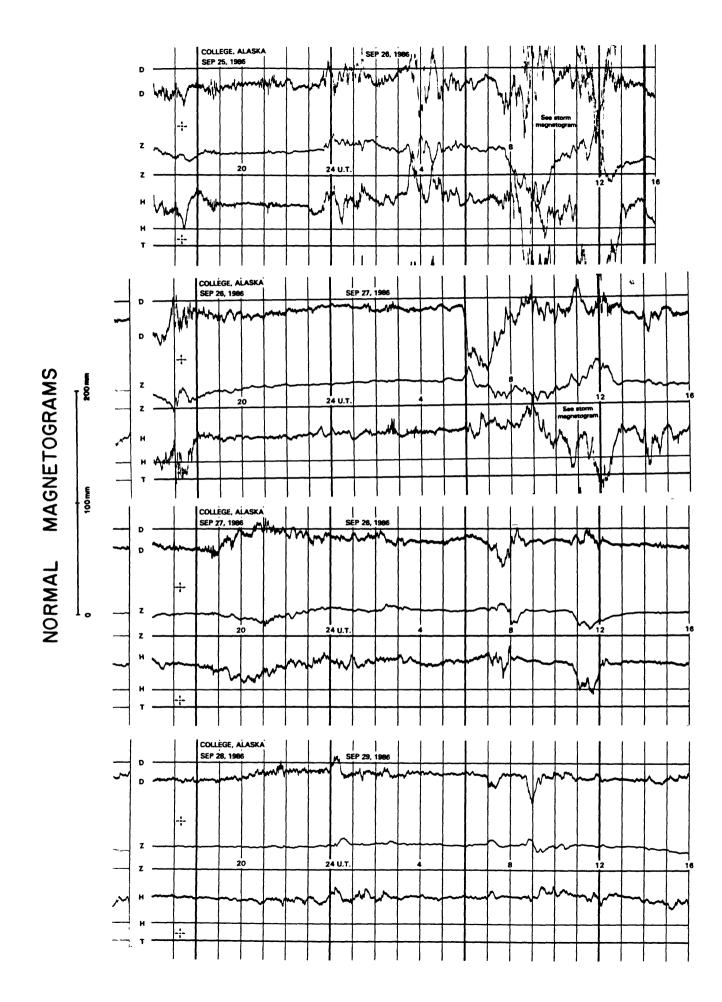


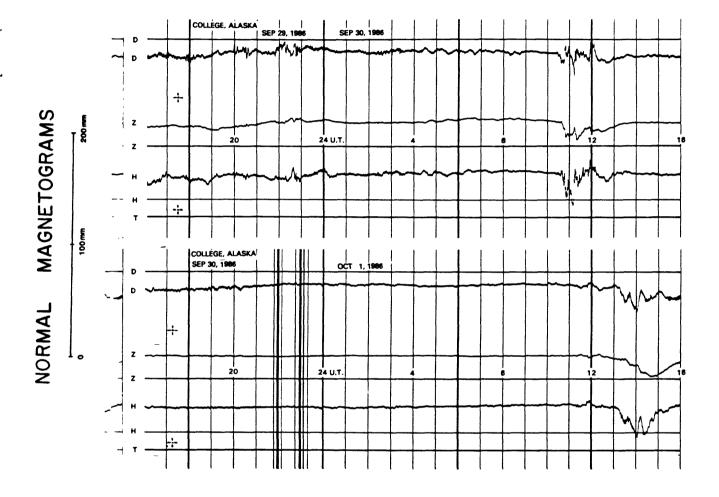


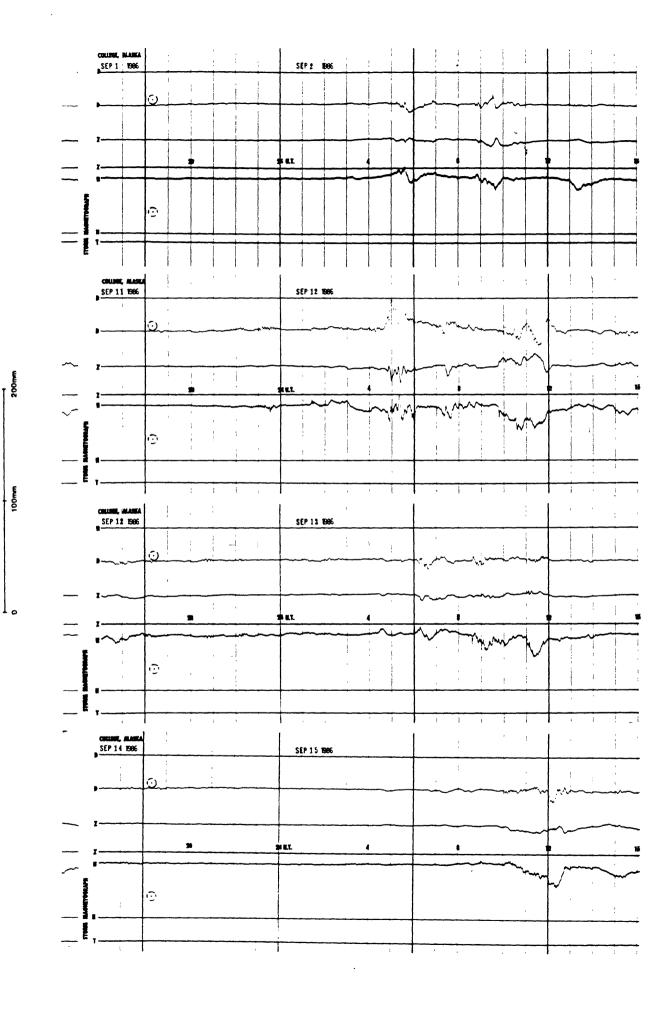












MAGNETOGRAMS

STORM

